

Great Lakes Wind on the Water Meeting Minutes: July 7, 2008**Meeting attendees included:**

Commissioner Lauren Azar, Dan Sage, Steve Levine, Lisa Stefanik, John Shenot, Rassa Ahmad, Regina Butler, and Dennis Koepke (PSC), Dave Siebert, Steve Ugoretz (DNR), Rick Stadleman (WI Towns Association), Monica Groves Batiza (WI Counties Association), Flora Flygt (ATC), Dave Donovan (Xcel Energy), Don Peterson (MGE), Mike Friis (DOA), Scott Smith (Alliant Energy), Emily Green (Sierra Club), Charlie Higley (CUB), Charlie Severance (WPS), Karen Etter Hale (Madison Audubon Society), Heather Leibham, Dan Pobloskie (We Energies), Michael Cain (DNR), Tom Dosch (DOJ), David Blecker and Dave Drapae (Seventh Generation Energy), Tim Bliefernacht (MGE), Bob Owen.

Attendees via phone included: Mayor Kevin Crawford (Manitowoc), Todd Vesperman (Army Corps of Engineers), Chairwoman Rose Gurnoe-Soulier (Red Cliff Band), Tom German (BCPL), Rick Bergman.

Welcome / Announcements:

Commissioner Azar congratulates the group on its efforts and hard work thus far. WOW members and sub-work group members are putting in substantial effort and time. The WOW group remains on track for an August delivery of a final draft report.

Final minutes from the June 23 meeting are not yet available. Several corrections were requested after the draft meeting minutes were released. A revised, updated version of the minutes will be available by the end of this week and will also be posted to the ERF soon.

Initial Presentations by the Work Groups:***The Human Environment -- Dave Siebert (DNR)***

- The Human Environment group will hold its next meeting on July 22. At that time, group members will be presenting their draft work products.
- The Human Environment Co-Chairs will be ready to present much of its work at the next upcoming WOW meeting on July 29.
- Dave requests that WOW members look at the proposed draft report outline and provide the Human Environment group feedback very soon on potential missed topic areas or information.

Community -- Mike Friis (DOA)

- Mike drafted an article for distribution that went to several community organizations (i.e. Wisconsin Towns Association, Great Lakes Information Network, etc).
- Mike will travel to Superior and Ashland this week and will be distributing materials on WOW.

- There has been no feedback so far on Wind on the Water as a concept. Questions received so far have revolved around logging on to the ERF system.
- Mike expects the group to convene in the next few weeks to survey the group on feedback received.
- Commissioner Azar suggests that to the extent the other work groups can pinpoint zones in Wisconsin where offshore wind may be developed, Focus groups may be appropriate in one or more sample communities to gather more specific feedback.
- Several suggestions were made during a brief discussion about what other ways the Community Group may garner public opinion. The ideas included:
 - Connect with community and/or planning committees.
 - Continue to interface with the WI Counties Association – Environmental Steering Committee. The committee was recently updated and feedback about offshore wind was generally positive. The steering committee is meeting again in August; Monica would be willing to raise awareness about our final draft report with this committee. Chairperson Eric Callisto of the PSC and Judy Ziewacz, Executive Director of the Office of Energy Independence, are scheduled to speak at the Annual Counties Association meeting this fall. Highlights from the Wind on the Water report could be included.
 - The League of Wisconsin Municipalities is meeting from October 21- 24. Kevin Crawford indicates a speaking slot may be able to be held in order for a WOW member to provide a brief definition of WOW and its work.
- Draft speaking points should be created and distributed to WOW members who may speak on behalf of the group.

Economics and Engineering – Dan Sage (PSC)

Dan thanks all the contributors to this group effort thus far. Dan presents a comprehensive power point which summarizes the research of his group so far.

- **Presentation:** "WOW Engineering and Economics Group"

The WOW group and other meeting attendees were allowed the opportunity to ask Q&A throughout the presentation about specific topics the group is researching. Upon conclusion of the presentation, these general observations were made:

- 1) Offshore wind as economic development opportunity: The Economics and Engineering group is not specifically addressing offshore wind as an economic development opportunity

at this time. The group is encouraged by public meeting attendees to explore this topic for the report.

- 2) Regional Pilot Project vs. Economies of scale: There may be advantages to not having the first offshore wind project be a Wisconsin-specific project – which would likely need to be large to obtain economies of scale -- or championed by a sole utility. The first project might be best constructed with a team of project partners and/or states backing it as a pilot project where the kinks are work out and the risks are spread over numerous parties.

Legal Analysis – Commissioner Lauren Azar (PSC)

- Commissioner Azar provides the WOW group an opportunity to add additional legal issues to the Legal group's research list that may have been uncovered through the last few weeks of continued research.
- It is discussed that a scope change from a Wisconsin-specific offshore wind project to a regional cooperative project could uncover a whole new set of legal issues involving other states – depending on the location of the project.
- At this time, our investigation continues to focus exclusively on Wisconsin.

Review of Report Draft Outline –

- The final report outline will be available at the next meeting. If members have comments about the current draft outline, please contact Lisa Stefanik directly with your suggestions or edits.
- Our work plan for the coming month is to ask work groups to draft their sections, and those drafts should come in to the PSC via the work groups. PSC representatives from the WOW group will work on the final draft report based on these submissions.
- It was suggested that the WOW research will often focus on tackling the possible barriers to offshore wind. It's important to also describe the benefits of offshore wind in the report.

Public Comment –

There was no specific public comment during the allotted period.

Next Steps / Other Business–

The next several meetings for WOW are reviewed. They are: –

- July 29 – Please continue to hold the entire day for more presentations by work groups. We will confirm our schedule for that day soon.

- August 11 – Please continue to hold the entire day. Draft report will be reviewed.
- August 20 – Final meeting: 9 a.m. to 12 noon. PSC staff will be continuing to work on the final draft report between August 11 and August 20 and will aim to distribute the draft in advance of the meeting – no later than August 19.